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PATENT  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Nakanishi et al.  
Serial No.: To be assigned  
Filed.: Filed Concurrently Herewith  
Title of Invention: RECORDING SYSTEM, DATA RECORDING APPARATUS,  
MEMORY APPARATUS, AND DATA RECORDING METHOD

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Date of Deposit: March 26, 2001

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application (35 U.S.C. 111)  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

✓  
Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein